

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 157619

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PO, US

SUBJECT: AZOREAN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT

REF.: STATE 152287

1. ALBERT P. BLAUSTEIN, PROFESSOR OF LAW AT RUTGERS UNIVERSITY AND MEMBER OF THE NEW YORK LAW FIRM OF NIERENBERG, ZEIF AND WEINSTEIN CALLED AT THE PORTUGUESE DESK JULY 3. BLAUSTEIN SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY JOSE DE ALMEIDA AND CARLOS MATOS OF THE FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF THE AZORES (FLA) WHO ASKED HIM TO ACCEPT A RETAINER AS THE REPRESENTATIVE OF FLA INTERSTS IN THE UNITED STATES. BLAUSTEIN'S LAW FIRM ACTS IN A SIMILAR CAPACITY FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH. WHILE AN AGREEMENT HAS NOT YET BEEN SIGNED WITH THE FLA, BLAUSTEIN IS INCLINED TO ACCEPT THE FRONT AS A CLIENT. HIS RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE FLA WOULD BE MORE PUBLIC RELATIONS THAN LEGAL.

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2. BLAUSTEIN SAID THAT THE FLA HAS ORGANIZED A FUND-RAISING GROUP IN THE U.S.: AZOREAN COMMITTEE -75, P.O. BOX 351 SOMERSET BRANCH, SOMERSET, MASSACHUSETTS 02726. TELEPHONE: AREA CODE 617-676-8884. BLAUSTEIN BELIEVES

THAT THE TELEPHONE IS LOCATED IN THE RESIDENCE OF
CARLOS MATOS. ALMEIDA REPORTEDLY TOLD BLAUSTEIN THAT THE

FLA IS PUTTING TOGETHER A SPECIAL FUND (HE IMPLIED
OUTSIDE OF THE US) FOR THE PURCHASE OF WEAPONS,
AND THAT FLA LEADERS HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH
A FORMER FRENCH GENERAL.

3. DESK OFFICER EXPLAINED TO BLAUSTEIN THAT THE U.S.
ATTITUDE TOWARD AZOREAN INDEPENDENCE IS ONE OF STRICT
NEUTRALITY, BRIEFLY REVIEWED FACTUAL DATA ABOUT THE
AZORES AND THE SEPARATIST DEMONSTRATION ON JUNE 6,
AND REMINDED BLAUSTEIN OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE
FOREIGN AGENTS REGISTRATION ACT. BLAUSTEIN DID NOT
SEEK ANY USG ASSISTANCE. HIS VISIT WAS, HE SAID, A
COURTESY CALL.

4. IN RELATED DEVELOPMENTS, THE JULY 4 ISSUE OF THE
NATIONAL REVIEW CONTAINS A WILLIAM BUCKLEY ARTICLE
IN SUPPORT OF THE FLA (ARTICLE BEING POUCHED), AND
THE FLA IS CONTINUING ITS ATTEMPTS TO OBTAIN
APPOINTMENTS WITH FOREIGN AMBASSADORS IN WASHINGTON.
ACCORDING TO THE ITALIAN EMBASSY, THE SUBJECT
OF THE FLA APPROACHES WAS RAISED DURING A MEETING
OF AMBASSADORS FROM EC COUNTRIES. THE AMBASSADORS
WERE UNANIMOUS IN THE VIEW THAT THE FLA REPRESENTATIVES
SHOULD NOT RPT NOT BE RECEIVED AT THEIR EMBASSIES. SISCO

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